



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Steamtown National  
Historic Site

150 South Washington  
Ave.  
Scranton, PA 18503

570-340-5200 phone  
570-340-5334 fax

---

## Steamtown National Historic Site News Release

March 12, 2004

For Release: March 22, 2004

Ralph J. Coury 570-340-5185

### National Park Week, April 17 – 25 Steamtown Welcomes Spring with the Return of “Live Steam”

Scranton, PA – Kick off a year of fun and excitement at Steamtown National Historic Site in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Celebrate National Park Week, April 17 – 25, 2004, and the seasonal return of “Live Steam”.

Experience America’s industrial heritage. Observe skilled train crews as they maneuver massive steam-powered locomotives and vintage railroad cars around the historic Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad Yard. Join National Park Rangers, Roundhouse and Maintenance Crews for behind-the-scenes tours, insightful demonstrations and living history programs. Board classic boxcars, cabooses and passenger coaches for a glimpse into the past and discover the people and industries that gave rise to a great nation. Visit the national park in your own backyard.

On Saturday, April 17, National Park Week will open with *Children’s Day*. Then, continuing through Sunday, April 25, special interpretive programs will highlight Steamtown’s linkages with other National Parks. They will include “America’s Legacy, The National Parks”, “Railroads and the National Parks” and “The History of Steamtown, From the Beginning to the Present”.

According to Superintendent Kip Hagen, “This is a very exciting point in Steamtown’s history. It marks the first time in many years that we will offer the ‘Live Steam’ experience so early in the season.” Crediting a recent strategic planning initiative with providing a “roadmap”

- MORE -

---

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

to the future of the Site, Mr. Hagen said, “Considerable energy has been dedicated to ensuring the continued availability of resources associated with this program. National Park Week 2004 will serve as a springboard for the introduction of an entire series of new and more diverse interpretive programs and activities throughout the year.”

Widely recognized as *The Nation’s Gateway to the Age of Steam*, Steamtown is open year-round, offering endless opportunities for visitors to explore a working roundhouse, witness a fully operating turntable in action, tour an active locomotive restoration shop, participate in activities in the Site’s technology and history museums and view *Steel and Steam* and other special presentations in the theater complex. The “Live Steam” experience abounds at every turn.

First celebrated in 1994, National Park Week was designated by presidential proclamation to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Park Service. This year, Steamtown will once again join the nation’s nearly 390 National Park Service sites in celebrating the many ways in which these national treasures enrich the lives of so many people in so many ways.

Steamtown, located in Scranton, Pennsylvania, is open from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. From I-81, follow exit 185 (Central Scranton Expressway); then, follow the signs to the main entrance at Lackawanna and Cliff Avenues. Call 570-340-5200 or 888-693-9391, or visit the Steamtown website at [www.nps.gov/stea](http://www.nps.gov/stea) for current schedules and updated information.

-NPS-

**Editor’s Note: Photographs and digital images are available upon request.**